

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A method for concentrating morinda citrifolia slurry comprising the step of chilling the slurry to a temperature and pressure below the triple point and removing the crystal and constituents of the slurry at that point, and further chilling the slurry to a second temperature and pressure producing crystals of a second constituent of the slurry and removing those crystals.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein said morinda citrifolia slurry has substantial pulp product.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein said chilling occurs in gradients associated with the freezing points of said slurry's constituent components.
4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 3 wherein said constituent's components are removed from said slurry.
5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 4 wherein said removed constituent components are have different concentrations of morinda citrifolia.
6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein therapeutic oils incorporated in the morinda citrifolia slurry are not volatilized during the process.
7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the resulting concentrate retains all of the health benefits of the slurry.
8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the resulting concentrate retains the morinda citrifolia flavor within the concentrate.

9. (currently amended) A method for freeze concentrating ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia comprising the steps of:

freezing, at a first temperature, a ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry to effectuate a separation of substantially pure water as ice crystals from said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry;

extracting said ice crystals by sifting;

freezing, at a second temperature, a the remaining substantially non-aqueous ~~portion constituents~~ of said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry, wherein said second temperature is less than said first temperature; and

recovering, from said remaining substantially non-aqueous ~~portion constituents~~ of said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry, concentrated ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry comprises pulp.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said freezing at a second temperature occurs in gradients associated with freezing points of ~~various non-aqueous components remaining in~~ said remaining substantially non-aqueous ~~portion constituents~~ of said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said ~~various non-aqueous components constituents~~ are removed from said slurry.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said removed ~~various non-aqueous components~~ constituents comprise different concentrations of ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein therapeutic oils indigenous to the ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry are not volatilized during the method.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry comprises phytochemicals, and wherein said concentrated ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia substantially retains at least some of said phytochemicals.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry comprises flavor, and wherein said concentrated ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia substantially retains said flavor.

17. (currently amended) A ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia concentrate resulting from concentrating, by freeze concentration, a ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia slurry comprising volatile flavoring and phytochemical components, wherein said ~~Morinda citrifolia~~ Morinda citrifolia concentrate substantially retains said volatile flavoring and phytochemical components.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that the preceding Amendment corrects the non-compliant Amendment bringing Applicant's response to the Office Action mailed October 2, 2003 in compliance with the requirements for 37 CFR 1.121.

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with undersigned counsel.

DATED this 13 day of February, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


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